

## THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of )  
 Harald Hess, et al. ) Group: 1762  
 Serial No.: )  
 Filed: July 6, 2001 )  
 Title: DEVICE AND METHOD FOR APPLYING ) Examiner: J. Calcagni  
 A COATING MEDIUM ONTO A MOVING )  
 SURFACE )

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 7/6/01

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
 Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Please enter the following Amendment to the application prior to calculating the filing fee.

Attached hereto as "ATTACHMENT A" is a marked-up copy showing the changes made to the above-identified patent application by the present Amendment.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 5-7, 9 and 12-21.

Please substitute the following amended claim 1 for original claim 1:

1. (Amended) A method of one of directly and indirectly applying a coating medium onto a moving fiber material web, said method comprising the steps of:

providing spray device having an application area;

orienting said spray device such that said application area is directed toward said fiber material web;

spraying the coating medium with said spray device to thereby atomize the coating medium; and

maintaining an atmosphere of at least one of a back-moistening medium and a moistening medium for the atomized coating medium in said application area of said spray device.